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A34357 - 071308.0167 PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Hofmann

Serial No.

09/892,412

Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Filed

June 27, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1722

For

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

August 26, 2002

Date of Deposit

James J. Maune

Attorney Name

ate of Signature

26,946

PTO Registration No.

SEP 3 - 2002

August 26, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant respectfully requests that the references relating to the above-mentioned application listed herein be made of record in the U.S. Patent and Trademark office:

- 1. DE 196 25 880 A1 (U.S. Patent No. 5,733,486);
- 2. DE 44 46 857 A1 (U.S. Patent No. 5,595,693);

NY02:402966.1

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- 3. EP 0 126 174 A1
- 4. EP 1 022 110 A2
- 5. JP 03 010823 A;
- 6. JP 60 107315A.

A PTO-Form 1449 and a copy of the above-listed document is enclosed.

English language abstracts for the Japanese references are attached.

No fee is believe to be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any fees associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 02-4377.

Respectfully submitted,

James J. Maurie

Patent Office Reg. No. 26,946

Attorney for Applicant (212) 408-2500

Enclosures

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Date Considered

Examiner

^{*} Examiner: Initial citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.